

Accountant. Their daughter Anne is a mechanical engineer who is working on a Masters program in Mechatronics.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Richard Mahacek for his years of dedication to the 4-H students and program.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary recipients of the 2012 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Awards. The Androscoggin Chamber has an outstanding record of creating and providing opportunities that promote economic and community growth in the communities that make up the heart of Central Maine.

Every year, the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce honors some of the outstanding individuals that work hard each and every day to make the Lewiston/Auburn region a better place to do business. Their efforts to strengthen opportunity and prosperity in Maine are remarkable, and the whole community benefits from the example of their success.

This year's award recipients include Agren Appliance and Baxter Brewing, Business Leadership Awards; Steve Closson of Androscoggin Bank, the Ray Geiger Award; L/A Cash Coalition and L/A Art Walk, Community Service Awards; Pike Industries, the Poland Business Award; Auburn Chief of Police and Acting City Manager Phil Crowell, the Public Service Leadership Award; Healthy Androscoggin, the Education Award; Industrial Roofing, the Cool Chamber Award; Lewiston Career Center, the Ken Addition Award for Business Advocacy; Center Street Dental, New Member of the Year; and, Northeastern Charter and Tours, and the Library Café, President's Awards.

These businesses, individuals, and organizations are among the very best that the Androscoggin County region has to offer. Thanks to the contributions of this year's award winners, Androscoggin County is a great place to work and live. I wish them all continued success going forward.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the recipients of the 2012 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Awards.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND ELIJAH EASON FOR HIS HONORABLE SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND COMMITMENT TO THE COMMU- NITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran

and man of God, Reverend Elijah Eason. He has served his community through hard work and Christian leadership.

Reverend Eason, a resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, was born October 31, 1965, to Frank and Maggie Eason in Washington County, Mississippi. He was the youngest child born to this union.

Following his graduation from Rolling Fork High School in 1984, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he served for four years. After returning home from the military, he met and married Angelia Michelle Bush in 1992.

In 2001, he devoted his life to Christ and was ordained a Baptist minister. For nine years, he led the flock of the Mount Lula Missionary Baptist Church and served there with great spiritual devotion. Reverend Eason always had a joke or a parable that would make you smile. He had true and genuine love for people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Elijah Eason for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community

PHILIP D. PROVENCHER

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Philip Provencher of Dunbarton, New Hampshire, on receiving the French Legion of Honor. It is truly a prestigious distinction to be appointed a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor by the President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy. Throughout history, France has been a strong ally to the United States and it is greatly appreciated that they continue to recognize the heroic acts of the brave men and women of our Armed Forces, and for the sacrifices and service performed to assist the French people during World War II.

As a member of the U.S. Army's First Infantry Division, Philip joined with allied forces on D-Day to help liberate France from the Germans by carrying a 50 lb. mortar on his back through the turbulent tides of the English Channel, to help support ground forces on Omaha Beach. As a translator for his unit, "Frenchy" then marched with his fellow soldiers through France, Belgium, and Germany. His valiant efforts during this campaign also earned him a Bronze Star for rescuing a wounded friend while under enemy fire.

These are but a few examples of the heroic and courageous acts Mr. Provencher performed in service to his country during WWII and I join with President Sarkozy and Governor Lynch in congratulating Philip on this esteemed recognition. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank him for his dedicated service to our country.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF SANDY HOPP FROM THE
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Sandy Hopp in the event of her retirement from Stanislaus County.

Sandy Hopp has been an employee of the County of Stanislaus since January 2003. She was recruited to work as a Field Representative for Supervisor Jeff Grover, a position she held for eight years. She is currently the Field Representative to Supervisor Terry Withrow, representing Supervisorial District Three. After being hired, she quickly increased in responsibilities and exhibited a great skill in working with people in all walks of life. She is often the eyes, ears and voice of her elected Supervisor, and represents the Supervisor in venues such as the Salida Municipal Advisory Committee, the Weed and Seed Project and other community meetings and organizations.

Mrs. Hopp has a tremendous understanding of government operations and serves as an outstanding interface between the Supervisors' Office, County departments, the community and various state and federal organizations. In her role, Mrs. Hopp quickly developed a passion for the area of legislative and governmental affairs. She was selected as a liaison to a French delegation visiting Stanislaus County, she serves as the coordinator of Government Day for the elite Leadership Modesto program and she was a coordinator of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Association of California Counties Supervisors Association Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Hopp is an outstanding liaison with the offices of local, state and federal elected officials. A personal highlight of mine is when Stanislaus County officials visit Washington, D.C. to present projects and priorities. Mrs. Hopp coordinates extremely complex schedules for maximum efficiency of the trip and also serves as an outstanding liaison to Congressional offices. Visiting with Mrs. Hopp on these trips is always a highlight for my staff and for me personally.

Mrs. Hopp has a personal commitment to excellence and a strong faith which is central to whom she is as a person and to her service to her family, church and community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mrs. Sandy Hopp for her many years of dedication to the County of Stanislaus.

RECOGNIZING ELDER HENRY SMILEY FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE COMMU- NITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable and honorable man, Elder Henry Smiley. A lifelong resident of Copiah County, Mississippi, he has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve.